

Continuing the Management Conference

Carrying out the CCMP is the combined responsibility of the Management Conference partners. Through their ongoing programs and operations, and through Federal, state, local, and private LIS funding initiatives and activities, CCMP priorities are assessed and implemented.

Strategy:

The essential element of the CCMP implementation strategy was to continue the Management Conference partnership in carrying out the CCMP. There are 13 actions identified in the CCMP to address this strategy, many of which have been accomplished, and which were key to the viability of the LISS partnership. Federal legislation in 1990 created the EPA Long Island Sound Office to bridge the bi-state, multi-agency and public/private stakeholder efforts to restore and protect the Sound. The Long Island Sound Agreement, signed by the Governors of New York and Connecticut and the EPA Administrator in 1994, and updated in 1996, formally committed the agency and the states to the Management Conference as a primary means of coordinating CCMP work to restore and protect LIS. The Clean Water Act was amended in 1996 to extend the Management Conference and authorize continued federal funding.



Highlights:

- The New York and Connecticut Sea Grant Program Directors were added as full members of the Management Committee in 1999. This action enhances the capability of the LISS to communicate and address issues of concern to LIS stakeholders.
- The Management Committee met quarterly in January, April, July, and October 1999. Management Committee meetings follow the quarterly CAC meetings, which enables committee members to more quickly consider and respond to issues identified by the CAC.
- The Citizens Advisory Committee provided comments for the public record concerning the draft nitrogen TMDL that was released for public comment in 1999. The CAC also strongly supported the creation of a Long Island Sound Reserve in testimony before Congress in October 1999.
- The Management Committee continued to explore methods to increase local and municipal participation in the work of the Conference in 1999. The Committee approved funds in 1999 to conduct a second municipal conference to be co-hosted by the City of Stamford and the town of Glen Cove, Long Island in June 2000.

SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: CONTINUING THE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

1. SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION (CCMP TABLE 50, P. 141)							
CCMP Action	Type ¹	Responsible Parties	When	Estimated Cost	Status ²	Description	Upcoming Action
M1-1. Formally extend the Management Conference for a minimum of five years to continue coordination and oversee implementation of the management plan. The Citizens Advisory Committee will remain part of the Management Conference structure.	C	EPA Administrator	Initiated upon approval of the plan. Completion date July 1, 1994.	Redirection of base program	Complete	The 1994 Long Island Sound Agreement committed the EPA and states to continue the Management Conference. §119 of the CWA was modified in 1996 to extend the Management Conference and authorize continued funding.	
M1-2. Continue and expand the role of the EPA Long Island Sound Office, consistent with the requirements of the LIS Improvement Act of 1990. Funding is available in FY 1994, but will be required in future years.	C	EPA Regions I and II	Ongoing. The office has facilities in Stamford, CT and Stony Brook, NY	Operational costs approximately \$175,000 per year	Fully Met	EPA continued to provide support for Long Island Sound Office under §119 and §320 of the CWA Act. In 1999, the EPA Administrator has proposed funding for the Long Island Sound Office as part of EPA's FY2001 budget.	
M1-3. Continue state program coordination and involvement in the Management Conference. Funding is available in FY 1994, but will be required in future years.	C	EPA-LIS Office	Ongoing, starting in FY 1994.	\$150,000 per year	Fully Met	The Management Conference provided funding for state coordination efforts through FY 1999.	
M1-4. Maintain public involvement and education efforts with an added focus on local government involvement. Funding is available in FY 1994, but will be required in future years.	C	EPA-LIS Office	Ongoing, starting in FY 1994	\$150,000 per year	Fully Met	The LISS has continued support for its public outreach and education program. See the <i>Public Involvement and Education</i> section for details.	
M1-5. Establish delegation of authority to allow the EPA Long Island Sound Office to support projects of studies as authorized by the Long Island Sound Improvement Act.	C	EPA-Headquarters	Upon approval of the plan	Redirection of base program	Complete	Delegation of Authority No. 2-94 was authorized by the EPA Administrator November 1, 1994.	
M1-6. Advocate modification to Clean Water Act § 320(g)(2) to allow the EPA to provide base funding through cooperative agreements to National Estuary Programs that complete their management plans.	C	CTDEP NYSDEC	Ongoing	Redirection of base program	Complete	EPA has provided post-CCMP funds to the Management Conference under CWA§320. Legislation passed in 1996 allows EPA to fund the Management Conference's implementation of the CCMP with federal funds.	

KEY

1) Type: Commitment; Recommendation

2) Status for dated actions: Complete, Ahead of Schedule, On Schedule, Behind Schedule, Partially Addressed, Not Initiated

Status for ongoing programs and ongoing CCMP actions: Fully Met, Substantive Progress, Partial Progress, Discontinued

1. SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION (CCMP TABLE 50, P. 141)

CCMP Action	Type ¹	Responsible Parties	When	Estimated Cost	Status ²	Description	Upcoming Action
M1-7. Develop a coordinated monitoring plan to assess the effectiveness of implementation, considering innovative approaches and building upon existing programs.	C	LISS	Completed in early 1994	\$25,000	Complete	<p>A LISS monitoring workshop was held in 1993. The workshop integrated findings of the LISS to develop a comprehensive, Soundwide monitoring plan. Portions of the Monitoring Plan are being implemented. Ongoing coordination is facilitated by a monitoring workgroup.</p> <p>A LIS Marine Monitoring Network of several moored, continuous data stations was established in 1999 under EPA's EMPACT program.</p>	
M1-8. Coordinate data management efforts between Long Island Sound and New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program (HEP), including support for a systemwide data manager.	C	LISS and HEP Management Conferences	Funded for 1994	\$25,000 per year from each program	Partial Progress	Both the HEP and LISS funded efforts to identify and load priority datasets onto a common Internet access server. The focus of efforts is to make data easily accessible over the Internet.	
M1-9. Modify the current structure of the LISS as needed to oversee implementation of the plan.	C	LISS Management Conference	Completed by the end of 1994	Redirection of base program	Complete	The Management Conference has been refocused. The Citizen Advisory Committee has been expanded, the Technical Advisory Committee reestablished, and implementation teams and work groups have continued.	.
M1-10. Ensure that the LISS is consistent with existing state coastal zone management (CZM) policies.	C	EPA	Concurrent with the submittal of the plan to the Governors of New York state and Connecticut	Redirection of base program	Complete	The LISS CCMP was judged to be consistent with the state coastal zone management policies.	
M1-11. Incorporate relevant elements of the plan into the state CZM program for federal consistency review.	C	CTDEP NYSDOS	Complete by the end of 1994	Redirection of base program	Substantive Progress	NYSDOS's LIS Coastal Management program to incorporate water and habitat quality concerns identified in the LISS CCMP. NYSDOS convened a LIS Coastal Advisory Commission in 1999 to advise the NY Secretary of State on program implementation. CTDEP considers the LISS CCMP in carrying out its CZM policies. The CCMP was incorporated in the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program in CT.	

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1. SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION (CCMP TABLE 50, P. 141)

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M1-12. Continue to support and enhance data management, analysis and reporting.	R	LISS Management Conference	Ongoing	\$200,000 per year	Substantive Progress	<p>Data analysis and reporting of hypoxia monitoring by CTDEP, ISC, and NYCDEP have been expanded in 1999. Each agency continued its monitoring activities and made available all data. In addition, a monitoring work group completed a 1998 <i>State of the Sound</i> report and finalized its 1999 report in early 2000.</p> <p>CTDEP is storing data in the <i>ACCESS</i> computer program. These stored data will also be loaded into <i>STORET</i>.</p>	CTDEP and NYSDEC are planning to participate in EPA's Coastal 2000 Initiative for LIS.
M1-13. Prepare an annual progress report on implementation including recommendations to redirect efforts.	R	LISS Management Conference	Ongoing	\$35,000 per issue; included under operational costs of LIS Office.	Fully Met	<p>An annual 1998 CCMP Implementation Tracking Report was completed in May 1999.</p> <p>The LISS successfully completed EPA's Biennial Review process in 1999.</p>	The 1999 report will be finalized by May 2000.

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